July 15, 2004

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MICHAEL J. BELL PARTNER bellm@howrey.com

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U. S. Patent Appl. No. 10/699,356

Filed: October 31, 2003

Systems and Methods for Integrating Existing Computer-based

Inventor: THOMPSON, Jr., et al Our Ref: 02708.0148.NPUS01

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

- 1. Information Disclosure Statement:
- Form PTO-1449 (1 page) The end of the strong of 2.
- 3. International Search Report
- 4. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the filing date of these documents and returned to our courier.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No.08-3038 referencing docket number 02708.0148.NPUS01. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

lommer (Reg. No. 53,932)

**Enclosures** 



In re application of: Thompson, Jr., et al

Art Unit: 2121

Appl. No. 10/699,356

Examiner: TBA

Filed: October 31, 2003

Atty. Docket: 02708.0148.NPUS01

For: Systems and Methods for Integrating

**Existing Computer-Based Systems** 

## **Information Disclosure Statement**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted

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herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ✓ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed;
  - □ a. Within three months of the U.S. filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
  - □ b. Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application;
  - ✓ c. Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits;
  - □ d. Before the mailing of a first Office Action after filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.115.

No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required.

or;

- □ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period specified in paragraph 1(a)-1(d) above, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, or action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and
  - □ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), or
  - □ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), or

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	□ c.	Attached is our Check No in the amount ofin payment of the
		fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
□ 3.	This	Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the
		U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of
		Allowance, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee. Attached is our Check No.
		in the amount of \$ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R.
		§ 1.17(i), and
	□ a.	I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information
		Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign
		patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three
		months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37
		C.F.R. $\leq 1.97(e)(1)$ , or
	□ b.	I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement
		was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart
		foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable
		inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure
		Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)
		more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure
		Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
□ 4.	Relev	vance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present
		specification.
<b>√</b> 5.	The	document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding International Application
		PCT/US03/34951. An English language version of the International Search
		Report is attached for the Examiner's information.
<b>□</b> 6.	A co	ncise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears
		below:
<b>□</b> 7.	The	Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No.
		, filed, which is directed to related technical subject matter.
		The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a
		waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present

Applicant: Thompson, Jr., et al. Appl. No. 10/699,356

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application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing docket number 02708.0148.NPUS01.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J./Bell (Reg. No.39,604)

Date: July 15, 2004

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LL Box No. 34 1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004-2402 (202) 783-0800

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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	3		Complete if Known			
Substitute for form 144	9A/PTG JUL 1 5 2004 2	Application Number	10/699,356			
	3,	Filing Date	October 31, 2003			
	TION DISCLOSURE	First Named Inventor	R. Thompson			
STATEME	NT BY APPLICANT	Art Unit	2121			
(Use as	many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	To be assigned			
et	of	Attorney Docket Number	02708.0148.NPUS01			

Sheet

	U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (if known)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
	1.	us-6,341,261	01/22/2002	Vasey-Glandon			
	2.	us-6,304,973	10/16/2001	Williams			
	3.	us-6,202,043	03/13/2001	Devoino			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>	
			<del></del>				

Examiner		Date	
Signature		Considered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.